

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action of March 16, 2007. Reexamination, reconsideration, and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Fourth Response, claims 1-15 and 17-32 remain pending in this application, and claims 1-5, 7, 8, 17-23, 27, 28, and 30-32 are allowed. Further, claims 6 and 9 are directly amended herein, and claims 33 and 34 have been canceled. It is believed that the foregoing amendments add no new matter to the present application.

Claims 33 and 34 have been indicated as allowable by the outstanding Office Action if such claims are rewritten to include the limitations of their respective base claims. The features of claims 33 and 34 have been respectively incorporated into independent claims 6 and 9 via the amendments set forth herein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 6 and 9 are allowable for at least this reason. Further, the remaining non-allowed claims 10-15, 24-26, and 29 include the features of at least one of the aforementioned allowable claims 6 and 9. Thus, claims 10-15, 24-26, and 29 are allowable as a matter of law. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).


CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

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